1: Drew G-3 (1862-1872) 1875 AV1 Kashmir AVI

made difficult for the laden men, and then a more gradual slope along a spur, through a forest of the same sorts of conifers. The spruce and silver fir flourish most in the high parts, while lower down the deodar and *Pinus excelsa* are most numerous. The trees, as a rule, run to a height of 100, 120, and 150 feet; many are wonderfully straight. In the descent of several thousand feet such as we were now making the changes in all kinds of vegetation are very striking; first below the snow were great bunches of different sorts of primulas; these farther down gave way to other flowers of great variety; deciduous trees gradually became more frequent, and with their fresh spring colours among the dark foliage of the conifers gave new beauty to the forest.

BHADARWÁH.

When we had descended more than 5000 feet we reached the valley of Bhadarwáh. This is a nearly flat-bottomed valley, a mile in width; in length it extends thus open for about four miles, above and below narrowing so as to leave hardly any space between the hill-slopes. The hills which bound it are the ends of spurs from the forest ridges. Some of these spurs have bits of cultivated ground at different levels, and in some places we noticed traces of former cultivation—terraced ground overgrown with young pines, of twenty years' growth or more.

The valley-bottom has a slope of about 3°. The land is terraced to this fall in steps of a few feet each, so as to fit it to receive the irrigating water that here is plentiful enough to provide for a crop of rice. For this, in the month of May, the people were busily preparing, both by ploughing and breaking up the ground with a heavy kind of hoe or mattock. Men and women combined, in gangs of ten or a dozen, were working over the fields, shoulder to shoulder, striking in regular time, and beguiling the hours by singing as they worked a monotonous but not unpleasing chorus. The process that follows—and this, being lighter labour, has not the same accompaniment of song—is pounding the clods with what are exactly like croquet-mallets;